Allocation of funds for ancient and historical buildings in hilly States

2359. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Finance Commission have allocated any funds for upkeep of several ancient and historical buildings in the Hilly States, particularly in Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments of Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh have submitted any action plan to Central Government in this behalf; and

(d) if so, the amount Government have sanctioned/released to each State mentioned above so far during 2005-2006 for conservation and protected monuments, till date?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Twelfth Finance Commission (TFC) has recommended allocation of Rs. 5 crores covering the period between 2005-06 to 2009-2010 to the state of Uttaranchal for heritage conservation.

(c) No action plans in this regard have been received from the State Governments of Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh.

(d) The details of funds provided for conservation of centrally protected monuments in the States of Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh during 2005-06 are as under:—

Uttaranchal Rs. 175.45 lakhs

Himachal Pradesh Rs. 137.57 lakhs

The Twelfth Finance Commission has not recommended any allocation for the year 2005-06.

Inflow of foreign tourists

2360. SHRIMATI S.G INDIRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that number of foreign tourists visiting the country has been decreasing day-by-day due to prevailing law and order problem being faced by the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have called upon the